

OPINION 1377

CHELYDRA OSCEOLA STEJNEGER, 1918 GIVEN
NOMENCLATURAL PRECEDENCE OVER CHELYDRA
LATICARINATA HAY, 1916 AND CHELYDRA SCULPTA HAY,
1916 (REPTILIA, TESTUDINES)

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers it is hereby ruled that the specific name *osceola* Stejneger, 1918, as published in the binomen *Chelydra osceola* is to be given nomenclatural precedence over *laticarinata* Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen *Chelydra laticarinata*, and *sculpta* Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen *Chelydra sculpta*, whenever it is considered to be a synonym of either of them.

(2) The name *osceola* Stejneger, 1918, as published in the binomen *Chelydra osceola*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with an endorsement that it is to be given nomenclatural precedence over *laticarinata* Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen *Chelydra laticarinata*, and *sculpta* Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen *Chelydra sculpta*, whenever it is considered to be a synonym of either of them.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with endorsements that neither is to be given priority over *osceola* Stejneger, 1918, as published in the binomen *Chelydra osceola*, when considered to be a synonym of that name:

(a) *laticarinata* Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen *Chelydra laticarinata*;

(b) *sculpta* Hay, 1916, as published in the binomen *Chelydra sculpta*.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2282

An application for the conservation of *Chelydra osceola* Stejneger, 1918 was first received from Professor H. M. Smith, Dr R. B. Smith and Dr D. Chiszar (*University of Colorado, Boulder, U.S.A.*) on 19 September 1978. After some correspondence, a revised draft, proposing conditional suppression, was sent to the printer on 20 July 1983 and published in *Bull. zool. Nom.*, vol. 40, pp. 225–227. Public notice of the possible use of plenary power in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to ten general and three herpetological serials. A supportive comment was received from Dr P. C. H. Pritchard (*Florida Audubon Society, Maitland, Florida, U.S.A.*).

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 16 September 1985 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1985) 49 for or

against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 40, p. 226. At the close of the voting period on 16 December 1985 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes—twenty-three (23) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Cocks, Willink, Savage, Kabata, Mroczkowski, Corliss, Bayer, Alvarado, Uéno, Hahn, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin, Zheng, Cogger, Lehtinen, Schuster, Ride, Thompson, Halvorsen, Dupuis, Heppell

Negative Votes—one (1) Bernardi.

No votes were returned by Gruchy and Kraus.

Bernardi commented: 'Je vote contre parce que toute décision nomenclatorique me semble prématurée au sujet du *Chelydra osceola* puisqu'il n'est pas certain que les espèces fossiles *C. laticarinata* et *C. sculpta* sont conspécifiques avec *C. osceola*, il ne s'agit que de probabilités. Supposons, par exemple, qu'il s'agisse de sous-espèces chronologiques. On aurait *C. osceola osceola* 1918 et *C. osceola laticarinata* 1916. C'est peu satisfaisant à mon avis. La question ne se réduit donc pas à simple synonymie éventuelle'.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

laticarinata, *Chelydra*, Hay, 1916, *Ann. Rep. Florida State geol. Surv.*, vol. 8, p. 72

osceola, *Chelydra*, Stejneger, 1918, *Proc. biol. Soc. Washington*, vol. 31, p. 89

sculpta, *Chelydra*, Hay, 1916, *Ann. Rep. Florida State geol. Surv.*, vol. 8, p. 73.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (1985) 49 were cast as set out above, that the proposals contained in that voting paper have been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1377.

P. K. TUBBS

Executive Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

16 December 1985